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Global Science and Policy Conference on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels, Santa Marta, Colombia, April 24-25, 2026

Workstream Agenda:

Just Transitions and Economic Diversification

Date: Friday 24th April 2026.

Time: 10:00-16:00 (GMT-5).

Location: Playa Grande Auditorium, [Universidad del Magdalena](#), Santa Marta ([Map](#)).

The global energy transition has entered a decisive yet fragmented phase. While renewables are expanding at an unprecedented pace, fossil fuels continue to influence geopolitics, fiscal stability, and development trajectories worldwide. This reality defines the present moment: progress is undeniable yet uneven, and the economic, social, and climatic risks brought by delayed action are intensifying.

Across the world, countries are navigating a complex landscape of constraints and barriers. Yet with careful and pre-emptive planning, the energy transition can open pathways to enhanced resilience, economic diversification, and long-term energy security. This workstream focuses on two closely connected dimensions of the transition away from fossil fuels: economic diversification and just transitions. These dimensions are essential for designing transition strategies that are both economically viable and socially equitable.

This workstream will convene diverse perspectives from research, policy, labour, civil society and finance for an inclusive and balanced discussion. The programme is grounded on scholarly exchange and open participation, giving participants plenty of opportunities to share their knowledge and engage with diverse perspectives on these topics.

Throughout the sessions, we will pay particular attention to the importance of strengthening linkages between transition implementation and international support. We will explore the landscape of transition approaches that are currently operational or under development across different regions. This will provide practical insights, policy options, and best practices for transition strategies in specific industries, such as coal, as well as relevant examples from sectors beyond energy. Through a number of moderated discussions, we will also explore the role of international cooperation and stakeholder dialogue in supporting these practices and enabling inclusive transition pathways.

The Global Science and Policy Conference will precede and complement the [First International Conference on the Just Transition Away from Fossil Fuels](#) co-organized by the governments of Colombia and the Netherlands. The outcomes of our academic dialogue will directly inform this political convening, through the development of a final conference report including prioritised recommendations for the transition away from fossil fuels (e.g. actionable pathways, policy options, and best practices). You can start sharing your reflections on this process through the [pre-event poll](#).

Agenda (April 24th)

7:00-8:00	Registration At the Magdalena main entrance (map).
8:00-10:00	Opening Plenary <i>The plenary will take place in the Neguanje Auditorium, but this space has limited capacity. You will be able to watch this session livestreamed in our auditorium.</i>
<i>Just Transitions and Economic Diversification Workstream</i>	
10:00-10:10	Welcome by the co-leads Andrea Cardoso (University of Magdalena) and Hina West (Climate Strategies).
10:10-10:30	Scene-setting: Just Transitions and Economic Diversification Stockholm Environment Institute and POLEN Transiciones Justas.
Session 1 – Just Transitions: Connecting International Support with National Implementation	
10:30-10:35	Introduction to the session Inés Jiménez (Climate Strategies).
10:35-11:00	Research Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oluwasola Omoju (National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies) Case study: Nigeria. • Just Transition Research Centre (Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur) Case study: India • Elodie Salle (Ecorys) Case studies: European Union, Western Balkans, and Ukraine. • Zoe Brent (UNRISD) Overarching study: Gender and care components in just transition implementation.
11:00-11:15	Q&A
11:15-11:55	Fishbowl Discussion: Connecting International Support with National Implementation An open, moderated discussion with our guest speakers and workstream audience.
11:55-12:00	Closing Remarks Inés Jiménez (Climate Strategies).
12:00-13:30	Lunch
Session 2 – Economic Diversification: Planning for Prosperity Post Fossil Fuels	
13:30-13:35	Introduction to the session Oluwasola Omoju (National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies).
13:35-14:00	Research Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmen Meza and Carolyn Caselles (Universidad de Magdalena) Case study: Colombia. • Nicolas Lippolis (Center for Energy, Finance, and Development) Case studies: Brazil and Senegal. • Lukas Slothuus (University of Sussex) Case studies: Denmark and North Sea region. • Tatiana Lanshina (Agora Energiewende) Case studies: Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Indonesia, and Vietnam. • Giulia Signorelli (ECCO) Case study: Algeria.

14:00-14:30	Fishbowl Discussion: Planning for Prosperity Post Fossil Fuels An open, moderated discussion with our guest speakers and workstream audience.
14:30-14:35	Closing Remarks Oluwasola Omoju (National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies).
14:35-14:45	Lunch
Session 3 – Breakout Discussions	
14:45-14:55	Introduction to the session Hina West (Climate Strategies)
14:55-15:30	Breakout Discussions Participants are welcome to join one of the following breakout discussions for an open moderated discussion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour reconversion and retraining. Hosted by Andrea Cardoso (University of Magdalena). • Evidence-making and transition modelling. Hosted by the Stockholm Environment Institute and POLEN Transiciones Justas. • Debt and Climate Finance Architecture Hosted by Amiera Sawas (Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty) • International Tax Cooperation Hosted by Sergio Chaparro-Hernandez (Tax Justice Network). • South-to-South and regional cooperation Hosted by Pao-Yu Oei and Jesse Burton (TRAJECTS).
15:30-15:50	Report Back Hina West (Climate Strategies)
15:50-16:00	Closing Remarks Andrea Cardoso (University of Magdalena).
<i>End of workstream.</i>	
16:30-17:30	Workstreams Poster Session: Draft Recommendations to Governments & Workstreams Results Corridor of the Bienestar Building
18:00-20:00	Launch: Scientific Panel on Global Energy Transition Santa Marta Theatre , in the city centre.